Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for formatting and coding content for storage and delivery, comprising:

providing at least two different formats for content storage;

receiving a coding and formatting request in one of at least two different formats from a user;

analyzing parameters contained in the coding and formatting request from said user;

configuring a formatting codec in one of at least two different formats for content delivery using the analyzed parameters;

decoding, formatting, and coding target content using the configured formatting codec, whereby coded target output content is produced in accordance with the coding and formatting request received from the user; and

routing the coded target output content to one or more target addresses;

wherein the method further includes processing auxiliary services that comprises:

analyzing auxiliary services processing requests based on the analysis of the parameters contained in the coding and formatting request,

configuring one or more auxiliary services processes to generate requested auxiliary services, and

outputting the requested auxiliary services, wherein the outputted auxiliary services are combined with the coded target output content.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising parsing the requested auxiliary services and time code data.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, further comprising synchronizing auxiliary service time code data and content time code data.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the auxiliary services comprise one or more of closed captioning, descriptive video narration, alternative language audio, content rating, critical review information, device control and commands, future content schedules, advertising, targeted advertising, text and data services, interactive services, and content metadata.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein auxiliary services are combined with requested source content, further comprising:

separating the auxiliary services from the requested source content;

processing the separated auxiliary services; and

combining selected separated auxiliary services with the coded target output content.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the requested auxiliary services are separate from the requested content.

8. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising polling formatting and coding resources, wherein available formatting and coding resources are identified.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

reading target content routing address information; and

configuring one or more target content routers based on the address information.

10. (currently amended) An apparatus ~~that decodes, formats, and codes content for storage and delivery,~~ comprising:

a processor configured to execute at least one software module that causes the apparatus to:

~~means for providing~~ provide at least two different formats for content storage;

~~means for receiving~~receive a coding and formatting request in one of at least two different formats from a user;

~~means for analyzing~~analyze parameters contained in the coding and formatting request from said user;

~~means for decoding~~decode, ~~formatting~~ format in at least one of two different formats for content delivery and ~~coding~~ code target content~~;~~

~~means for configuring the means for decoding, formatting and coding target content, whereby coded target output content is produced~~ in accordance with the coding and formatting request received from the user; and

~~means for routing~~route the coded target output content to one or more target addresses; and

~~further comprising means for processing~~process auxiliary services, comprising:

~~means for~~ analyzing auxiliary service requests based on the analysis of the parameters contained in the coding and formatting request;

~~means for~~ configuring one or more auxiliary services ~~processing means~~processors to supply the requested auxiliary services; and

~~means for~~ outputting the requested auxiliary services, whereby the outputted auxiliary services are combined with the coded target output content.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to:

~~further comprising means for parsing~~parse auxiliary services and auxiliary service time code data.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to:

~~further comprising means for synchronizing~~synchronize the auxiliary service time code data and content time code data.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, whereby auxiliary services are combined with requested source content, ~~further comprising~~and wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to:

~~means for separating~~separate the auxiliary services from the requested source content;

~~means for processing~~process the separated auxiliary service; and

~~means for combining~~combine selected separated auxiliary services with the coded target output content.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the requested auxiliary services are separate from the requested content, and wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to~~further comprising~~:

~~means for formatting~~format and ~~coding~~ code the requested auxiliary services; and

~~means for combining~~combine the requested formatted and coded auxiliary services and the coded target output content.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the auxiliary services comprise one or more of closed captioning, descriptive video narration, alternative language audio, content rating, critical review information, device control and commands, future content schedules, advertising, targeted advertising, text and data services, interactive services, and content metadata.

17. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to~~further comprising~~:

~~means for polling~~poll formatting and coding ~~means~~resources; and

identify~~, wherein~~ available formatting and coding ~~means~~ resources based on said polling~~are identified~~.

18. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to~~further comprising~~:

~~means for reading~~read target content routing address information.

19. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to~~further comprising~~:

~~means for configuring~~configure one or more ~~means for routing~~routers of target content based on the address information.

20. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the parameters contained in the coding and formatting request comprise one or more of a physical address, a logical address, coding parameters, compression parameters, format description, content size, description of auxiliary services, and metadata elements.

21. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the at least one software module, when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to~~further comprising~~:

~~means for applying~~apply forward error correction coding to target output content.

22. (original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the target addresses include one or more of an aggregator local storage and a user terminal.